

From: ["Thomas. Hattie" </O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE:GROUP \(FYDIBOHF23SPDLT\)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=B1EBAFC79FA94F308D9F6EBB0424E75A-THOMAS.HATTIE>](mailto:Thomas.Hattie@EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE:GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=B1EBAFC79FA94F308D9F6EBB0424E75A-THOMAS.HATTIE)
To:
CC:
Date: 1/14/2014 4:29:09 PM
Subject: OPA Daily Digest 1/14/14

OPA Daily Digest for 01/14/14

Congressional Inquiries:

None

State and Local Government Inquiries:

Rep Bill Otto (Mo): 1/12/14 - Question on work being done at the Westlake Site. Contact: Sarah Hatch, 7199 (open)

Mayor Woerther (Mo): 1/14/14 - Question on the Wildwood meeting. Contact: Sarah Hatch, 7199 (closed)

Press Inquiries:

Farm News, Ft. Dodge, Iowa – Larry Kirchner – 1/14/13: Questions about submitting comments about the Renewable Fuels Standard. Contact: Kris Lancaster, 7557 (closed)

KMOX Radio, St. Louis – Kevin Killeen – 1/14/13: Questions about coring and sampling phase of engineering survey at West Lake Landfill Site in Bridgeton, Mo. Contact: Chris Whitley, 7394 (closed)

KSDK Channel 5, St. Louis – Darren Copeland – 1/14/13: Questions about coring and sampling phase of engineering survey at West Lake Landfill Site in Bridgeton, Mo. Contact: Chris Whitley, 7394 (closed)

Environmental Stories:

KMOX Radio St. Louis - More Testing This Week At Bridgeton Landfill - 1/13/14 - The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency is scheduled to begin more sample digging in Bridgeton this week. <http://stlouis.cbslocal.com/2014/01/13/more-testing-this-week-at-bridgeton-landfill/>

KSDK Ch. 5 St. Louis - Fluid released at landfill possibly toxic - 1/13/14 - A spokesman for the Bridgeton landfill calls it an emergency discharge to prevent a spill, but the bottom line is that extremely smelly, black liquid and harmful gasses buried within the burning dump were pumped into the open on a day when air monitoring systems weren't working. <http://www.ksdk.com/story/news/2014/01/13/bridgeton-landfill-fluid-release-odor-toxic-gas/4466335/>

KTVI Ch. 2 St. Louis – EPA testing radioactivity levels at West Lake Landfill - 1/13/14 - The Environmental Protection Agency will begin a new round of testing at the West Lake

Landfill. New core sampling is set to begin Monday or Tuesday. <http://fox2now.com/2014/01/13/epa-testing-radioactivity-levels-at-west-lake-landfill/>

Ottumwa Courier (Iowa) - Neighbors: Hog confinements will ruin community - 1/13/14 - Three proposed hog confinement facilities owned by an Illinois corporation have become a topic of heated debate in northwest Davis County. <http://www.ottumwacourier.com/local/x12789635/Neighbors-Hog-confinements-will-ruin-community>

News-Leader, Springfield, Mo. - Engineers to design water chlorination systems for Nixa - 1/13/14 - The Nixa Department of Public Works has sped up plans to add chlorine to the city's groundwater after the Missouri Department of Natural Resources threatened sanctions against the city. <http://www.news-leader.com/article/20140113/NEWS01/301130023/Nixa-water-chlorination>

The Examiner (Independence, Mo.) - Lynn Youngblood: Independence making big changes - 1/14/13 - This electric power quandary is really two-fold – production and consumption. The conversation has surrounded production. It needs to include consumption <http://www.examiner.net/article/20140113/OPINION/140119547/10135/OPINION>

Topeka Capital-Journal - KDHE: About 1,500 gallons of diesel fuel, water mixture recovered from Shunga Creek - 1/13/14 - Cleanup efforts are still underway after more than 1,500 gallons of a mixture of diesel fuel and water leaked into the Shunga Creek several days ago, an official said Monday. <http://cjonline.com/news/2014-01-13/kdhe-about-1500-gallons-diesel-fuel-water-mixture-recovered-shunga-creek>

Forbes - Clean Air Act: EPA'S Charade To Justify War On Coal Plants - 1/14/14 - The Environmental Protection Agency didn't let a Clean Air Act requirement that mandated technologies be "adequately demonstrated" hinder their new performance standards ruling that puts a 1,100-pound limit per megawatt hour on carbon emissions from new coal power plants. <http://www.forbes.com/sites/larrybell/2014/01/14/clean-air-act-epas-charade-to-justify-war-on-coal-plants/>

Minneapolis Star-Tribune - NTSB: 400,000 gallons of crude spilled in N.D. train wreck - 1/13/14 - The train derailments and explosions near Casselton, N.D., two weeks ago are drawing calls for stricter tank car safety standards. The oil train spilled 400,000 gallons of crude, U.S. investigators said Monday in a preliminary report on the accident. <http://www.startribune.com/business/239948631.html>

Lawrence Journal-World - Transmission lines would send Kansas wind power to eastern U.S. - 1/14/14 - Wind energy has become a booming business in Kansas in recent years. That's been an economic boon for some landowners, who now continue to farm and graze the land, but who also receive payment for the easements they grant utility companies for placing the windmills on their property. <http://www2.ljworld.com/news/2014/jan/13/transmission-lines-would-send-kansas-wind-power-ea/>

Des Moines Register - Munns joins Environmental Defense Fund to lead 'Smart Power' initiative - 1/13/14 - Diane Munns, a MidAmerican Energy Co. executive and former Iowa Utilities Board chairwoman, has joined the Environmental Defense Fund as senior director of the group's Smart Power Collaboration. <http://blogs.desmoinesregister.com/dmr/index.php/2014/01/13/munns-will-join-environmental-defense-fund-to-lead-smart-power-initiative/>

Buzzfeed Politics - White House Lays Groundwork For Environmental Push - 1/13/14 - The Obama administration is getting ready to give a lot more juice to a key executive environmental office in a year officials say will be marked by the White House acting on its own when Congress won't. <http://www.buzzfeed.com/evanmcsan/white-house-lays-groundwork-for-environmental-push>

Domestic Fuel - Iowa U.S. Senate Candidates Support Biofuels - 1/14/14 - Considering the state's significant role in biofuels and renewable energy, there's little surprise that primary candidates for the Iowa U.S. Senate seat are expressing their support of the green fuels. <http://domesticfuel.com/2014/01/14/iowa-u-s-senate-candidates-support-biofuels/>

Union of Concerned Scientists - Despite Drop in Coal Use, Most States Remain Dependent on Coal Imports, Draining Billions from Local Economies - 1/14/14 - The nation is using less coal to produce electricity, but many states are still heavily dependent on it--and for them, the cost of importing coal from other states and even some foreign countries continues to be a drain on local economies. http://www.ucsusa.org/news/press_release/bcbc-2014-0386.html

Joplin Globe - Southeast Kansas Recycling Center faces funding crisis, possible closure - 1/13/14 - While groups such as Keep America Beautiful and the Environmental Protection Agency have entire websites touting the benefits of recycling, Southeast Kansas residents may lose their only recycling center if permanent funding isn't found soon.

<http://www.joplinglobe.com/topstories/x1956159793/Southeast-Kansas-Recycling-Center-faces-funding-crisis-possible-closure>

Omaha World-Herald - Fort Calhoun Nuclear Station back online after ice problems - 1/13/14 - Days after shutting down the reactor at the Fort Calhoun Nuclear Station to deal with iced-over equipment, the Omaha Public Power District has restarted it. <http://www.livewellnebraska.com/article/20140113/NEWS/140119474>

Des Moines Register (blog) - Iowa Farm Bureau head says cut to ethanol mandate would be “detrimental” for state - 1/13/14 - A proposal by the White House to reduce the amount of ethanol blended into the gasoline supply in 2014 would be “detrimental” to Iowa, the president of the Iowa Farm Bureau said Monday. <http://blogs.desmoinesregister.com/dmr/index.php/2014/01/13/iowa-farm-bureau-head-says-cut-to-ethanol-mandate-would-be-detrimental-to-iowa/>

Lincoln Journal-Star (Neb.) - Lower Platte North NRD lifts 180-day stay and imposes new groundwater rules - 1/13/14 - The Lower Platte North Natural Resources District Board on Monday approved two measures that could have repercussions for irrigators and other groundwater users for years to come. http://journalstar.com/news/local/lower-platte-north-nrd-lifts-day-stay-and-imposes/article_9e3e77d2-ed3e-5705-bf73-4e3a388c1aeb.html

Des Moines Register - Cellulosic ethanol leaders plan to discuss future in Iowa - 1/13/14 - A group of renewable fuels executives will explore the state’s future in cellulosic ethanol production, using corn cobs, stalks and other materials, during a panel discussion at the Iowa Renewable Fuels Summit on Jan. 28. <http://blogs.desmoinesregister.com/dmr/index.php/2014/01/13/cellulosic-ethanol-leaders-plan-to-discuss-future-in-iowa/>

Chemical & Engineering News - Electrochemical Cell Generates Hydrogen Fuel While Cleaning Up Arsenic - 1/14/14 - Researchers have designed a way to increase the cost-effectiveness of removing toxic arsenic from water by coupling the cleanup with hydrogen fuel generation. <http://cen.acs.org/articles/92/web/2014/01/Electrochemical-Cell-Generates-Hydrogen-Fuel.html>

EcoWatch - 5 Reasons the Keystone XL Pipeline Flunks President Obama’s Climate Test - 1/14/14 - Could the Keystone XL pass President Obama’s test of not “significantly” increasing carbon pollution? The unanimous answer from climate scientists, economists, researchers and carbon offset experts: No. <http://ecowatch.com/2014/01/14/keystone-xl-flunks-obamas-climate-test/>

Brownfield Ag News - ‘Big Data’ policy discussion gets Hurst’s attention - 1/13/14 - American Farm Bureau delegates set policy Tuesday, and among the issues, one of the biggest has to do with the ownership of data collected from farms. http://brownfieldagnews.com/2014/01/13/big-data-policy-discussion-hursts-attention/?utm_source=rss&utm_medium=rss&utm_campaign=big-data-policy-discussion-hursts-attention

Ag Professional - Cover Crops for Cattle - 1/10/14 - Diversified cattle and row-crop producers are recognizing the benefits that cover crop combinations offer. http://www.agweb.com/article/cover_crops_for_cattle_NAA_Rhonda_Brooks/

Des Moines Register - Soil health, kimchi, pesticide drift all part of Practical Farmers of Iowa convention discussions - 1/14/14 - Practical Farmers of Iowa will hold its annual conference Jan. 24-25 in Ames, with a slate of workshops and seminars for row-crop and fruit and vegetable farmers, landowners and food enthusiasts. <http://blogs.desmoinesregister.com/dmr/index.php/2014/01/14/soil-health-kimchi-pesticide-drift-all-part-of-practical-farmers-of-iowa-convention-discussions/>

National Journal - Omnibus Thwarts Obama on Overseas Coal-Plant Funding Limits - 1/13/14 - The \$1 trillion federal spending bill that lawmakers unveiled Monday night would soften an Obama administration climate-change policy that greatly restricts U.S. support for coal-plant construction in developing nations. <http://www.nationaljournal.com/energy/omnibus-thwarts-obama-on-overseas-coal-plant-funding-limits-20140113>

The Hill (blog) - Omnibus spending bill blocks key Obama energy regs - 1/14/14 - The omnibus spending bill unveiled by lawmakers Monday night blocks a number of key energy and climate regulations put forward by the Obama administration. <http://thehill.com/blogs/e2-wire/e2-wire/195330-omnibus-spending-bill-blocks-key-obama-energy-regulations>

E& E Daily - Marquee rules spared from riders in landmark spending agreement - 1/14/14 - A massive spending bill unveiled last night leaves President Obama's energy,

environment and climate programs largely intact while slightly boosting clean and fossil energy spending and keeping U.S. EPA's budget relatively steady.

<http://www.eenews.net/eedaily/stories/1059992848/>

E& E Daily - Republicans decry EPA rules at start of House markup - 1/14/14 - Opening remarks yesterday by four Republican members at a House Energy and Power Subcommittee markup hit all the usual GOP criticisms of U.S. EPA climate regulations -- that they were anti-coal, job killing and extreme.

<http://www.eenews.net/eedaily/stories/1059992844/>

Wichita Business Journal - Boeing studying 'green diesel' as a sustainable jet fuel - 1/14/14 - The Boeing Co. on Tuesday announced it has found potential in what's known as "green diesel" as a sustainable aviation biofuel. <http://www.bizjournals.com/wichita/blog/2014/01/boeing-studying-green-diesel-as-a.html>

Domestic Fuel - Congress in No Hurry to Renew Biodiesel Tax Credit - 1/14/14 - Congress seems to be in no hurry to renew the \$1-a-gallon federal biodiesel tax credit. An analysis from Bloomberg BNA indicates that the biodiesel credit, as well as some other renewable energy credits, won't come until later this year but at least will be applied retroactively. <http://domesticfuel.com/2014/01/13/congress-in-no-hurry-to-renew-biodiesel-tax-credit/>

Lincoln Journal Star (Neb.) - Nebraska fourth in spending per capita on coal - 1/14/14 - Nebraska is fourth among the states in spending per capita -- \$203 -- on coal brought into the state primarily to generate electricity. http://journalstar.com/business/local/nebraska-fourth-in-spending-per-capita-on-coal/article_277ee3fe-d877-5cf6-ba43-dcfc2a4b185b.html

BNA - EPA Reschedules Hearing on Power Plant Standards - 1/13/14 - The Environmental Protection Agency has rescheduled the upcoming hearing on its proposed carbon dioxide performance standards for new power plants for Feb. 6. http://news.bna.com/deln/DELNWB/split_display.adp?fedfid=39883953&vname=dennotallissues&jd=a0e5a3x4d3&split=0

BNA - Analysts Split on Whether Energy Review Focused on Infrastructure to Affect Keystone - 1/13/14 - Analysts are divided over how an administration-wide review of energy policy that will focus on energy infrastructure might affect the Obama administration's decision on whether to approve the Keystone XL oil sands pipeline. http://news.bna.com/deln/DELNWB/split_display.adp?fedfid=39883976&vname=dennotallissues&jd=a0e5a5x8d5&split=0

BNA - McCarthy Says Automakers 'Embracing' Challenge of Fuel Economy Standards - 1/13/14 - Car companies are "embracing the challenge" of stricter fuel economy standards and investing in technologies that will enable them to meet those standards, Environmental Protection Agency Administrator Gina McCarthy said Jan. 13. http://news.bna.com/deln/DELNWB/split_display.adp?fedfid=39883962&vname=dennotallissues&jd=a0e5a4p5u2&split=0

BNA - Congress Should Consider Giving EPA Authority Over Farm Discharges, GAO Says - 1/13/14 - Congress should consider revising the Clean Water Act to allow mandatory controls on pollution from agriculture as part of changes to the federal total maximum daily loads program, according to a Government Accountability Office report released Jan. 13. http://news.bna.com/deln/DELNWB/split_display.adp?fedfid=39883975&vname=dennotallissues&jd=a0e5a5x8b2&split=0

BNA - Industry Expects Rail Transport, Hazmat Reauthorization to Be Major 2014 Issues - 1/13/14 - The rail transport of flammable liquids and other hazardous materials will be a major issue in 2014 as Transportation Department agencies consider possible regulatory changes. http://news.bna.com/deln/DELNWB/split_display.adp?fedfid=39883991&vname=dennotallissues&jd=a0e5a9h8b8&split=0

Inside EPA - FY14 Bill Gives DOE, EPA Budget Increases But Would Block Key Policies - 1/14/14 - Congress' bipartisan fiscal year 2014 funding bill would give budget increases to the Department of Energy (DOE) and EPA, but also includes provisions to block key policies. <http://cleanenergyreport.com/201401142458094/Clean-Energy-Report-Daily-News/News/fy14-bill-gives-doe-epa-budget-increases-but-would-block-key-policies/menu-id-202.html>

Inside EPA - EPA Implementation Of Regional Haze Air Program Faces Key Legal Tests - 1/14/14 - EPA's implementation of its program to curb regional haze emissions to improve visibility in national parks faces a number of key appellate court tests -- and potentially a Supreme Court challenge. <http://cleanenergyreport.com/201401132458034/Clean-Energy-Report-Daily-News/News/epa-implementation-of-regional-haze-air-program-faces-key-legal-tests/menu-id-202.html>

Inside EPA - Water Sector Seeks Host Of Flexibilities In EPA Climate Enforcement Pilot - 1/14/14 - Wastewater and drinking water utilities are urging EPA to test a host of potential regulatory and enforcement flexibilities in a pilot project the agency has suggested creating to work through potential legal issues regulators and utilities may face as they seek to address climate risks. <http://insideepa.com/201401142458099/EPA-Daily-News/Daily-News/water-sector-seeks-host-of-flexibilities-in-epa-climate-enforcement-pilot/menu-id-95.html>

Inside EPA - EPA Urged To Allow Propane For Compliance In Utility NSPS - 1/13/14 - The propane gas industry is urging EPA to recognize the use of the fuel as a compliance option in the agency's pending new source performance standard (NSPS) for existing power plants. <http://insideepa.com/201401132458013/EPA-Blog/The-Inside-Story/epa-urged-to-allow-propane-for-compliance-in-utility-nsps/menu-id-97.html>

Inside EPA - TSCA Reform Bill Raises Doubts Over EPA Resources For Implementation - 1/13/14 - Debate over a bipartisan Senate bill to reform the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA) is sparking questions over whether the agency will have adequate resources to implement the rigorous chemical testing and screening requirements. <http://insideepa.com/Risk-Policy-Report/Risk-Policy-Report-01/14/2014/tsca-reform-bill-raises-doubts-over-epa-resources-for-implementation/menu-id-130.html>

Inside EPA - EPA Stresses Prioritization In New 'Vision' For Impaired Waters Program - 1/13/14 - EPA's recently finalized long-term vision for the Clean Water Act (CWA) program to identify and clean up impaired waters stresses states' ability to prioritize water quality efforts and use "alternative approaches" to address lower-priority waters. <http://insideepa.com/201401142458040/EPA-Daily-News/Daily-News/epa-stresses-prioritization-in-new-vision-for-impaired-waters-program/menu-id-95.html>

Inside EPA - GAO Urges Congress To Bolster Regulation Of Nonpoint Source Pollution - 1/13/14 - The Government Accountability Office (GAO) is calling on Congress to expand what it says is limited regulation of nonpoint source water pollution and end the traditionally voluntary approach to curbing the runoff. <http://insideepa.com/201401142458041/EPA-Daily-News/Daily-News/gao-urges-congress-to-bolster-regulation-of-nonpoint-source-pollution/menu-id-95.html>

Inside EPA - Spill Prompts Calls For Stricter Chemical Laws - 1/13/14 - Democratic lawmakers, environmentalists and labor officials are calling for policymakers to strengthen the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA) and other chemical regimes in the wake of last week's spill in West Virginia. <http://insideepa.com/201401132458039/EPA-Blog/The-Inside-Story/spill-prompts-calls-for-stricter-chemical-laws/menu-id-97.html>

Press Releases:

Link to all R7 press releases: <http://go.usa.gov/Qx5>

None

Fact Sheets:

Link to all R7 fact sheets: <http://www.epa.gov/region7/factsheets>

None

Upcoming Administrator/RA Events:

* New additions noted with an asterisk

1/15/14 - 2013 CFC Awards Breakfast, Kansas City, Mo., Julia Cacho, 7071

1/16/14 – COOP Drill, Regional Office, Chris Taylor, 7736

1/16/13 – Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Training Event, Kansas City, Kan., Greg Davis

1/17/14 - Meeting with U.S. Army Corp of Engineers, Col. Sexton, Kansas City, Mo, Ron Hammerschmidt, 7566

1/17/14 – Meet and greet with new HUD Regional Director, Jennifer Tidwell, Regional Office, Kerry Herndon, 7286

2/5/13 – Regional Tribal Operations Committee, Lenexa, Kan., Wolfgang Brandner, 7381

2/11/13 – Agribusiness Showcase Conference, Des Moines, Kris Lancaster, 7557

2/12/13 – Iowa Legislation Availability Session, Des Moines. Sarah Hatch, 7199

2/20/13 – Air & Waste Management Association Mid-West Chapter Annual Conference, Overland Park, Kan., Becky Weber, 7487

DRA:

1/16/14 – COOP Drill, Kansas City, Mo., Chris Taylor, 7736

1/17/14 – Meet and greet with new HUD Regional Director, Jennifer Tidwell, Regional Office, Kerry Herndon, 7286

2/5/13 – Regional Tribal Operations Committee, Lenexa, Kan., Wolfgang Brandner, 7381

RA/Immediate Office

None

Other Events

AWMD

None

CNSL

None

ECO/EJ

None

ENSV

None

PLMG

1/15/14 – Federal Executive Board HR Committee Meeting, Kansas City, Mo. Contact: Tina Palmerin, 7572.

RA/OPA

*1/15/13 – Open House in Wildwood, Mo., to discuss work at the Bliss-Ellisville Superfund site. Contact: Ben Washburn, 7364

1/16/14 – Chicago Heights community advisory group meeting, St. Louis, Mo. Contact: Belinda Young, 7463, Mary Peterson, 7882, Chris Whitley, 7394

SUPR

None

WWPD

1/16/14 – Renovation, Repair and Painting Rule Presentation, Columbia area contractors, Columbia, Mo. Contact: Tom Brick, 7913

1/17/14 – Technical assistance to Missouri Department of Natural Resources on water program databases, Jefferson City, Mo. Contacts: Michael Boeglin, 7252, Neil Gilbert, 7985.

1/21-24/14 – Groundwater Protection Council Training Conference, New Orleans, La. Contact: David Garrett, 7159

Hattie L. Thomas

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